



News Release

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IDWR ISSUES NOTICE OF VIOLATION TO SALMON AREA RANCHER
FOR UNAUTHORIZED STREAM CHANNEL ALTERATIONS

Editors Note: Digital photos of the violations can be emailed to you upon request.

For Immediate Release
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A Salmon area rancher has been ordered by state stream channel protection managers to remove three unauthorized dams created in Little Sawmill Creek and are seeking \$10,000 in civil penalties for the violation of state law, the Idaho Department of Water Resources announced today.

Roger Ball, also doing business as Guardian Lt. Partnership No. 2, had the streambed of Little Sawmill Creek excavated along a 1,000 feet-long reach of the creek about two miles upstream from the town of Lemhi. Material taken from the streambed and along the sides of the creek was then used to create three dams ranging from 16-21 feet high which could be used to impound a total of 28 acre feet of water in three small reservoirs. A 5-feet-high road crossing had also been built across the creek above the first dam, also without authorization, IDWR said in the violation notice.

The dams were built with 16-feet high concrete outlet structures in which flashboards boards had been placed. The boards are designed to restrict water flowing in the creek creating ponds up to 12 feet deep behind each dam.

IDWR ordered Ball to remove within 48 hours flashboards from the three dam outlets; to take out all the unauthorized fill material from the stream bed by November 30; to submit to IDWR by March 1, 2004 a plan to stabilize and restore the disturbed channel; and to complete by June 1, 2004 all restoration and stabilization measures.

IDWR will also pursue \$10,000 in civil penalties for the unauthorized stream channel alteration.

Ball has two weeks in which to request a meeting with IDWR to discuss the violation. However, a ranch manager working for Ball has already notified IDWR that the flashboards have been removed from the outlet structures in accordance with the violation order.